

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 A-01 OPR-02 SS-15 CPR-02 USSS-00
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TO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY CARACAS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY KINGSTON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MEXICO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY PANAMA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 146222

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (PARA 1, LINE 8 OMITTED)

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP, (CARTER, JIMMY)

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT'S VISIT TO PANAMA: MULTILATERAL
MEETINGS

REFERENCE: STATE 143754, PANAMA U4067, CARACAS 5182,
MEXICO 09439

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1. YOU ARE NOW AUTHORIZED TO CONSULT WITH HOST
GOVERNMENTS ON PROPOSED MULTILATERAL MEETINGS OF
CHIEFS OF STATE/HEADS OF GOVERNMENT INVITED TO PANAMA
JUNE 16-17. WE UNDERSTAND THE PANAMANIAN'S HAVE DISCUSSED
ARRANGEMENTS, DURING FOREIGN MINISTER'S VISIT, ONLY IN
GENERAL TERMS, INDICATING THAT TIMES HAD BEEN SET ASIDE
FOR POSSIBLE MEETINGS BUT NOT MAKING CLEAR MULTILATERAL

DISCUSSING AGENDA.

2. THE TWO MULTILATERAL MEETINGS ARE SCHEDULED AS FOLLOWS:

-- JUNE 16 - 6:15-7:00 P.M., EL PANAMA HOTEL
-- JUNE 17 - 8:37-9:30 A.M., EL PANAMA HOTEL

3. YOU MAY WISH TO ADVISE THAT SCHEDULE WORKED OUT JOINTLY BY PANAMA AND US IS A VERY FULL ONE. THE

PRESIDENT HAD HOPED TO HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO MEET INDIVIDUALLY WITH EACH CHIEF OF STATE/HEAD OF GOVERNMENT IN PANAMA, BUT BECAUSE OF EXTREMELY TIGHT SCHEDULE IT WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN POSSIBLE TO HAVE MORE THAN VERY BRIEF PRO FORMA MEETING WITH EACH. THEREFORE WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE PREFERABLE TO HAVE MULTILATERAL SESSIONS AS DESCRIBED ABOVE IN ORDER TO MAXIMIZE TIME AVAILABLE FOR SUBSTANTIVE EXCHANGE OF VIEWS. FURTHERMORE, MEETING OFFERS UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY FOR LEADERS OF SEVEN OF THE MOST IMPORTANT DEMOCRACIES IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN TO DISCUSS TOGETHER MAJOR ISSUES OF THE HEMISPHERE.

4. SHOULD YOU BE PRESSED ON BILATERALS, YOU SHOULD CONFIDENTIAL

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FIRMLY INDICATE YOUR INSTRUCTIONS ARE THAT THE PRESIDENT INTENDS TO HOLD TO CURRENT SCHEDULE.

5. IN ORDER TO HAVE PRODUCTIVE MEETING, IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE TO HAVE SOME IDEA OF GENERAL TOPICS EACH PARTY WOULD LIKE TO RAISE AND, IF POSSIBLE, AN AGREED LIST OF TOPICS.

6. FOUR GENERAL TOPICS SEEM LOGICAL TO US: (1) PROMOTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND DEMOCRATIC EVOLUTION IN THE HEMISPHERE, (2) NORTH/SOUTH ECONOMIC ISSUES, (3) PEACEKEEPING AND REGIONAL SECURITY, AND (4) INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL ISSUES. GIVEN TIME CONSTRAINTS, IT MAY NOT BE POSSIBLE TO DISCUSS EVEN AS MANY AS FOUR TOPICS. WE WOULD APPRECIATE OTHER GOVERNMENT'S VIEWS AS TO WHAT TOPICS SHOULD BE DISCUSSED -- AND THEIR VIEWS ON HOW PROCESS MIGHT BE MANAGED IN ORDER TO MAXIMIZE THE POSITIVE RESULTS OF THE MEETINGS. ON THE BASIS OUR SOUNDINGS, WE WOULD CIRCULATE A REVISED, SUGGESTED LIST OF TOPICS.

7. FYI: WE AGREE WITH GENERAL THRUST OF COMMENTS

CARACAS 5182 AND THEREFORE PREFER YOU NOT AT THIS
TIME PURSUE MORE DETAILED DISCUSSIONS ON STRUCTURE
OR ORGANIZATION AS INDICATED IN STATE 143754.

8. FYI: WITH REFERENCE TO PANAMA 4067, IT IS OUR HOPE
THAT LOPEZ PORTILLO WILL AGREE TO PARTICIPATE IN AT
LEAST FIRST AND PREFERABLY IN BOTH MULTILATERAL MEETINGS
AND THAT MANLEY AND CARAZO WILL DECIDE TO STAY OVER
UNTIL MORNING OF SEVENTEENTH FOR THE SECOND MULTILATERAL.
WE RECOGNIZE, HOWEVER, THIS MAY NOT BE POSSIBLE. (IN
THE EVENT MOST OTHER CHIEFS OF STATE STILL PLAN TO

DEPART EVENING JUNE 16 WE MAY RECONSIDER MULTILATERAL
NOW PLANNED FOR JUNE 17. SUCH A CONTINGENCY IS NOT
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CONSIDERED LIKELY, HOWEVER, AND SHOULD NOT BE CONVEYED
TO OTHER GOVERNMENTS AT THIS STAGE.) VANCE

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